

To Improve Sandy Soils.

There is a very erroneous but strong impression on some minds that light, loose sands are valueless for purposes of culti-

in their native state, if it is true, that the presence of a few drops of urine or buckwheat reduces the yield of wool. It is therefore necessary and so much manure is the forthright requisite to reinvigorate and keep them in heart that they are either turned out to pasture or abandoned in despair. I have had some experience in the cultivation of this species of soil, and my success has induced me to attach to them the same degree of importance that is usually accorded to sheep. I am fully persuaded that even the lightest and most sterile sands may, by proper management, and without any ruinous outlay of expense, either in time or capital, be made to produce a most valuable product, in sheep, that will compare

can be redeemed from this unjust imputation of their worthlessness, and made to yield, not only remunerative crops, but crops equalling in abundance and richness those afforded by the most affluent soils upon which labor has ever been bestowed.

In the first place, in order to the successful amelioration of sandy soils, it will be necessary to plow completely and thoroughly to displace them from the surface. After this is effected, let them be plowed deeply, with a strong team, in the last of the autumn season, in all the wild growth upon them.

to the surface of the soil; then work it thoroughly and roll with a roller as you can procure. The next thing is to give the surface a good dressing of clay. This earth will generally be found in the near vicinity of the field to be clayed, either in some neighboring run or water-course, or beneath the sand, for sand and clay are never far apart. The finer it is, and the more greasy, the more durable will be its action; and the more liberally it is applied, the more thorough will be the improvement consequent upon its application. The next time the application is immediately after plowing, and it should be deep, refined and broken up, as though the dressing

ed in heaps, and spread evenly over the surface, to remain exposed during the winter to the action of the frost. In the spring plow again not so deeply as before, in order not to disturb the sward, harrow and again roll. You can now sow on rye, or plant, and the crop will come off in season to allow you an opportunity to give another dressing of clay, which in quantity should be equal to the first—say forty cords to the acre—and spread as before.

the soil and you will no longer have the barrenness of sand to contend with, but a soil induced with all the requisites of permanent fertility. The soil, if properly manured will act with as much celerity and energy as upon the richest lands. It may be thought that the quantity of clay recommended (eighty sords to the acre) is large; but it is not so, for the cultivators bestow this amount of stable manure, and bear in mind the very important fact that while manure is an article for which money has to be paid, the whole cost of clay is embodied in the quarrying, the objection arising from the quantity being altogether a complete and thorough improvement being large will at once cease to retain its force. If the farmer cannot afford this, he can apply a less quantity at first, and add to it as he has means.

confronted with a much less lucrative return for his annual labors, as a very large number of the owners of the soil, after thoroughly to improve the soil and overcome the many and serious imperfections of sand as it naturally exists. Therefore it is much better and more in accordance with the policy of enlightened economy, to give enough at first to effect that object desired, and enter at once into the profits of the business, than to occupy years with only a limited annual return.

One great reason—and indeed I regard it as the principal reason—why nature never acts rigorously on light sands is, that the *arizema* perennix, which characterizes it

caused the dung to keep dry, and consequently the resulting manure is dry. Dung is no better in the ground than a chip or a stone, and will produce just the same effect upon the crop.

The clay gives cohesiveness to the particles, unites them by a sort of glutinous attachment and consolidation, and while it favors the absorption and retention of moisture, insures the fermentation and ultimate decomposition of the dung. In a few years the soil will assume a fine dark appearance, resembling that of garden soil, and the plants will grow tall and in is a bed capable of affording expansion to their roots, and sunnily a moisture and

to rich every person, therefore, who is the possessor of sandy soil, I would say, *clay it at once*. No soil is so easily worked, and from no soil, when managed in this way, will labor secure to itself a more certain and rich reward.—[Cor. Ger. Telegraph.

FALSE TAILS TO HORSES.—It often happens that two carriage horses may be perfect matches in all respects but their tails. The one may have a fine flowing caudal

of his fair proportions. In such a case the fashion with horses is pretty much as it is with our fashionable fair at the present moment; if nature is not prodigal of this ornament, art is called in; the lady purchases her Alexandria ringlet, which so negligently flows over her shoulder, at Truffitt's; the groom matches the flowing mane with an equally flowing tail. The false tail is cunningly placed on in the following manner: The caudal stump is shaved,

and the false hair is intended to be of the
 crupper, and detection is as impossible
 with respect to hair-dressing of the horse,
 as we all know it is with that of the lad-
 dies. There is scarcely a first-class
 stable in London, where many carriage-
 horses are kept, that these false tails are
 not an absolute necessity of their getting
 up, and they may be seen hanging on the

WHITE FLAX.—Inclosed I send you a sample of "White" or "Sapling" flax seed. I sowed it this year on the same ground and at the same time with the common variety, yet the Sapling is fully a foot the longest, while the straw is as fine and the lint apparently as good as the other. Is it raised in your State? If so, what is thought of it? I am satisfied that it is a decided improvement over the other, when known, it

will be popular. B. F. I.
PERRYVILLE, Ky., July 24, 1864.

The White Flax is grown out little, but where known is well spoken of. Your own experience is certainly very favorable. Shall hope to hear of its further dissemination. The sample of seed is very good.


[Prairie Farmer.


~~The~~ The Pongkeepsie Eagle (a Lincoln organ) is correct in saying that—

"The people are very tired of hearing of drafts; they dread them as they do a pesti-

—The whole quantity of salt inspected on the Onondaga Salt Springs Reservation from January 1 to July 30, 1864, is 2,686,000 lbs. The quantity of salt inspected

during the same time in 1863, 2,883,314 bushels; decrease, 196,513 bushels. The price has been again advanced.

 The police of the city of Brooklyn, New York, have just counted 2,311 rum shops in that city, only 30 of which are licensed.

 An Indian is like a waterman when he feathers his skull.

